



Cobb County Department of Public Safety

Internal Affairs Unit
100 Cherokee Street; Suite 140
Marietta, GA 30090-9682

MEMORANDUM

To: Police Department Applicants
Animal Control Applicants

Date: 01/22/2014

Re: Tattoo / Branding Policy

IV TATTOOS/BRANDING

When on duty, in uniform, or readily identifiable as a police officer, employees shall adhere to the following guidelines:

- A. The display of any unprofessional or offensive tattoo or brand is prohibited. The following list includes, but is not limited to, the types of items prohibited by this policy:
 - Depictions of nudity or violence;
 - Sexually explicit or vulgar art, words, phrases or profane language;
 - Symbols likely to incite a strong negative reaction in any group (i.e. swastikas, pentagrams, etc.);
 - Initials or acronyms that represent criminal or historically oppressive organizations (i.e. KKK, SS, street gang names, numbers, and/or symbols).
- B. More than one tattoo/brand displayed on each arm or leg is prohibited.
- C. The display of any tattoo/brand below the elbow which is larger than 3" by 4" is prohibited.
- D. The Department does not allow tattoos or branding on the head, face, neck, scalp, hands, or fingers.
- E. Existing employees are prohibited from obtaining any further tattoos and/or brands that are in violation of this policy. Employees that were employed on or before May 1, 2013, are permitted to wear their current tattoos in an exposed manner; however, any further tattoos or brands in violation of this policy are prohibited.
- F. Any tattoo/brand that detracts from the appearance of the uniform is prohibited.

The final authority as to the prohibition of a tattoo/brand shall be with the Chief of Police or his designee.
